



# Livestock Slaughter

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## Record High Red Meat and Beef Production in March

**March 2020** contained 22 weekdays (including 0 holidays) and 4 Saturdays.

**March 2021** contained 23 weekdays (including 0 holidays) and 4 Saturdays.

**Commercial red meat production** for the United States totaled 5.05 billion pounds in March, up 1 percent from the 5.00 billion pounds produced in March 2020.

**Beef production**, at 2.48 billion pounds, was 3 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 3.01 million head, up 3 percent from March 2020. The average live weight was up 4 pounds from the previous year, at 1,372 pounds.

**Veal production** totaled 4.9 million pounds, 15 percent below March a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 31,600 head, down 27 percent from March 2020. The average live weight was up 34 pounds from last year, at 266 pounds.

**Pork production** totaled 2.55 billion pounds, down 1 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 11.7 million head, down 2 percent from March 2020. The average live weight was up 3 pounds from the previous year, at 291 pounds.

**Lamb and mutton production**, at 13.9 million pounds, was up 13 percent from March 2020. Sheep slaughter totaled 213,700 head, 14 percent above last year. The average live weight was 130 pounds, down 1 pound from March a year ago.

**January to March 2021 commercial red meat production** was 14.2 billion pounds, down 1 percent from 2020.

Accumulated beef production was down 1 percent from last year, veal was down 18 percent, pork was down 2 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was up 1 percent.

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## Contents

Commercial Red Meat Production – United States.....	4
Federally Inspected Red Meat Production – United States.....	4
Livestock Slaughter and Average Live Weight – United States.....	5
Commercial Red Meat Production – States and United States.....	6
Commercial Cattle Slaughter – States and United States: March 2020 and 2021 .....	7
Commercial Calf Slaughter – States and United States: March 2020 and 2021.....	8
Commercial Hog Slaughter – States and United States: March 2020 and 2021.....	9
Commercial Sheep and Lamb Slaughter – States and United States: March 2020 and 2021 .....	10
Livestock Slaughtered Under Federal Inspection by Class – United States.....	11
Federally Inspected Slaughter Average Dressed Weight by Class – United States.....	11
Federally Inspected Slaughter – Regions and United States: March 2021.....	12
Federally Inspected Slaughter – Regions and United States: January to March 2021.....	13
Federally Inspected Slaughter Percent of Total Commercial Slaughter – United States.....	13
Terms and Definitions Used for Livestock Slaughter Estimates .....	14
Statistical Methodology.....	15
Information Contacts.....	16

## Commercial Red Meat Production – United States

[Totals, accumulated totals, and percentages based on unrounded data]

Type	March 2020	February 2021	March 2021	March 2021 as % of		January to March		
				March 2020	February 2021	2020	2021	2021 as % of 2020
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Beef .....	2,411.2	2,105.5	2,480.6	103	118	6,930.6	6,895.2	99
Veal .....	5.8	4.7	4.9	85	104	17.3	14.2	82
Pork .....	2,566.5	2,265.3	2,548.4	99	112	7,426.2	7,291.2	98
Lamb and mutton .....	12.3	10.8	13.9	113	129	34.9	35.1	101
Total red meat .....	4,995.7	4,386.3	5,047.8	101	115	14,409.0	14,235.6	99

## Federally Inspected Red Meat Production – United States

[Totals, accumulated totals, and percentages based on unrounded data]

Type	March 2020	February 2021	March 2021	March 2021 as % of		January to March		
				March 2020	February 2021	2020	2021	2021 as % of 2020
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Beef .....	2,379.2	2,070.7	2,438.8	103	118	6,840.2	6,781.2	99
Veal .....	5.6	4.6	4.7	84	103	16.9	13.8	82
Pork .....	2,555.2	2,255.2	2,536.3	99	112	7,395.2	7,257.7	98
Lamb and mutton .....	11.3	9.7	12.7	113	131	31.8	31.9	100
Total red meat .....	4,951.3	4,340.2	4,992.5	101	115	14,284.0	14,084.6	99

## Livestock Slaughter and Average Live Weight – United States

[Totals, accumulated totals, and percentages based on unrounded data]

Species	March 2020	February 2021	March 2021	March 2021 as % of 2020	January to March		
					2020	2021	2021 as % of 2020
<b>Cattle</b>				(percent)			(percent)
Number of head							
Federally inspected .... 1,000	2,874.6	2,472.5	2,946.4	102	8,267.9	8,109.8	98
Other ..... 1,000	47.7	50.1	60.0	126	134.0	163.9	122
Commercial ..... 1,000	2,922.3	2,522.7	3,006.4	103	8,401.9	8,273.7	98
Average live weight							
Federally inspected .. pounds	1,371	1,394	1,376	100	1,376	1,390	101
Other ..... pounds	1,182	1,215	1,219	103	1,190	1,216	102
Commercial ..... pounds	1,368	1,390	1,372	100	1,373	1,387	101
<b>Calves</b>							
Number of head							
Federally inspected .... 1,000	42.5	32.5	30.9	73	130.8	95.1	73
Other ..... 1,000	0.7	0.5	0.7	98	2.1	1.8	83
Commercial ..... 1,000	43.2	33.0	31.6	73	132.9	96.9	73
Average live weight							
Federally inspected .. pounds	230	245	263	115	224	251	112
Other ..... pounds	363	377	393	108	364	374	103
Commercial ..... pounds	232	247	266	115	227	253	112
<b>Hogs</b>							
Number of head							
Federally inspected .... 1,000	11,882.8	10,376.1	11,677.8	98	34,313.3	33,245.6	97
Other ..... 1,000	59.0	52.0	62.0	105	165.5	172.2	104
Commercial ..... 1,000	11,941.8	10,428.1	11,739.8	98	34,478.7	33,417.7	97
Average live weight							
Federally inspected .. pounds	288	291	291	101	289	292	101
Other ..... pounds	261	267	268	102	257	266	103
Commercial ..... pounds	288	291	291	101	289	292	101
<b>Sheep and lambs</b>							
Number of head							
Federally inspected .... 1,000	165.0	142.8	188.5	114	468.9	471.9	101
Other ..... 1,000	22.8	20.8	25.2	111	66.0	67.1	102
Commercial ..... 1,000	187.7	163.6	213.7	114	534.9	539.1	101
Average live weight							
Federally inspected .. pounds	136	136	135	99	135	135	100
Other ..... pounds	95	101	95	100	97	97	101
Commercial ..... pounds	131	132	130	99	131	130	100
<b>Goats</b>							
Number of head							
Federally inspected .... 1,000	44.4	31.4	41.9	94	125.2	111.3	89
Other ..... 1,000	9.0	6.7	7.6	84	26.7	21.7	82
Commercial ..... 1,000	53.4	38.0	49.5	93	151.9	133.0	88
Average live weight							
Federally inspected .. pounds	65	65	66	101	65	65	101
Other ..... pounds	83	88	86	104	85	86	102
Commercial ..... pounds	68	69	69	101	68	69	101
<b>Bison</b>							
Number of head							
Federally inspected .... 1,000	5.8	4.8	5.7	98	15.2	15.7	103
Other ..... 1,000	0.6	0.2	0.5	90	1.7	1.1	63
Commercial ..... 1,000	6.4	5.0	6.2	98	16.9	16.8	99

## Commercial Red Meat Production – States and United States

[Includes total beef, veal, pork, lamb, and mutton. Totals and percentages based on unrounded data]

State	March 2020	February 2021	March 2021	March 2021 as % of 2020
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Alabama .....	0.9	0.8	1.2	140
Alaska .....	0.1	0.1	0.1	109
Arizona .....	40.3	42.3	44.5	110
Arkansas .....	0.5	0.6	0.6	121
California .....	153.3	143.1	163.8	107
Colorado .....	194.2	168.7	174.6	90
Delaware-Maryland .....	3.2	2.8	3.3	103
Florida .....	3.4	4.6	5.9	176
Georgia .....	15.3	12.6	15.7	103
Hawaii .....	0.9	0.8	0.9	104
Idaho .....	33.9	30.4	33.6	99
Illinois .....	316.9	268.8	301.9	95
Indiana .....	162.0	147.3	163.3	101
Iowa .....	806.1	702.0	787.4	98
Kansas .....	525.9	432.6	547.1	104
Kentucky .....	56.1	45.8	54.3	97
Louisiana .....	0.4	0.3	0.5	106
Michigan .....	104.0	105.2	118.9	114
Minnesota .....	251.5	233.7	272.5	108
Mississippi .....	0.6	0.6	0.8	133
Missouri .....	181.2	157.0	180.9	100
Montana .....	1.4	1.2	1.9	136
Nebraska .....	709.9	631.1	692.9	98
Nevada .....	0.1	0.1	0.1	84
New England <sup>1</sup> .....	2.6	2.6	3.0	114
New Jersey .....	3.6	3.3	3.9	108
New Mexico .....	0.4	0.4	0.5	106
New York .....	3.2	3.1	3.6	112
North Carolina .....	248.0	239.9	257.8	104
North Dakota .....	0.7	0.8	0.9	143
Ohio .....	24.6	23.3	26.2	107
Oklahoma .....	121.0	107.7	117.0	97
Oregon .....	4.0	4.0	4.7	119
Pennsylvania .....	131.8	112.0	137.6	104
South Carolina .....	15.2	14.4	17.1	112
South Dakota .....	141.4	122.5	138.2	98
Tennessee .....	25.6	22.1	30.6	119
Texas .....	408.0	338.3	437.6	107
Utah .....	51.0	49.1	53.0	104
Virginia .....	52.7	37.6	41.5	79
Washington .....	85.7	72.8	84.1	98
West Virginia .....	0.9	0.8	0.8	94
Wisconsin .....	112.9	98.3	122.2	108
Wyoming .....	0.4	0.8	0.9	218
United States .....	4,995.7	4,386.3	5,047.8	101

<sup>1</sup> New England includes Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

## Commercial Cattle Slaughter – States and United States: March 2020 and 2021

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2020	2021	2020	2021	2020	2021
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Alabama .....	0.7	1.3	761	1,397	1,086	1,112
Alaska .....	0.1	0.1	80	84	1,143	962
Arizona .....	47.6	50.9	65,866	71,803	1,387	1,412
Arkansas .....	0.6	0.8	588	787	930	1,020
California .....	1442.2	147.7	193,773	200,311	1,351	1,364
Colorado .....	213.4	192.4	301,418	270,758	1,413	1,408
Delaware-Maryland .....	3.3	3.4	4,652	4,798	1,397	1,398
Florida .....	(D)	8.7	(D)	11,073	(D)	1,273
Georgia .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Hawaii .....	1.3	1.2	1,391	1,436	1,113	1,181
Idaho .....	45.2	44.6	59,336	58,545	1,324	1,323
Illinois .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Indiana .....	3.6	4.9	4,204	5,935	1,175	1,212
Iowa .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Kansas .....	596.4	622.7	811,289	845,207	1,361	1,358
Kentucky .....	3.6	4.4	3,792	4,924	1,051	1,129
Louisiana .....	0.6	0.6	491	559	832	899
Michigan .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Minnesota .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Mississippi .....	0.5	0.7	423	644	883	921
Missouri .....	5.7	9.1	6,221	10,469	1,102	1,153
Montana .....	1.6	2.1	1,968	2,727	1,240	1,299
Nebraska .....	624.0	607.4	901,001	884,097	1,445	1,457
Nevada .....	0.1	(D)	109	(D)	1,102	(D)
New England <sup>1</sup> .....	3.0	3.2	3,505	3,770	1,174	1,191
New Jersey .....	4.3	4.0	4,789	4,446	1,117	1,120
New Mexico .....	0.7	0.6	701	628	1,067	1,119
New York .....	3.5	3.8	4,161	4,589	1,211	1,236
North Carolina .....	7.8	8.8	9,554	10,807	1,225	1,231
North Dakota .....	0.8	1.2	1,064	1,537	1,307	1,316
Ohio .....	6.9	7.5	9,039	9,964	1,307	1,328
Oklahoma .....	3.0	5.3	2,798	6,451	929	1,207
Oregon .....	1.3	1.7	1,518	2,052	1,161	1,196
Pennsylvania .....	94.1	96.4	115,661	120,468	1,235	1,256
South Carolina .....	22.6	24.8	29,541	33,311	1,314	1,351
South Dakota .....	44.8	47.1	64,761	68,827	1,453	1,469
Tennessee .....	3.0	3.9	2,960	4,105	1,004	1,076
Texas .....	504.4	544.1	658,640	710,013	1,309	1,309
Utah .....	60.7	61.3	81,598	84,366	1,347	1,379
Virginia .....	1.6	2.3	1,647	2,373	1,028	1,048
Washington .....	99.8	98.3	140,050	138,211	1,406	1,409
West Virginia .....	1.2	1.1	1,289	1,196	1,052	1,123
Wisconsin .....	121.3	131.0	169,283	183,697	1,403	1,409
Wyoming .....	0.5	1.1	558	1,314	1,120	1,190
United States .....	2,922.3	3,006.4	3,989,980	4,116,566	1,368	1,372

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

<sup>1</sup> New England includes Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

## Commercial Calf Slaughter – States and United States: March 2020 and 2021

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2020	2021	2020	2021	2020	2021
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Alabama .....	(Y)	0.1	(X)	37	(X)	449
Alaska .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Arizona .....	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)	(D)
Arkansas .....	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
California .....	4.5	4.4	575	553	133	130
Colorado .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Delaware-Maryland .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Florida .....	0.1	0.1	34	55	403	485
Georgia .....	0.1	0.2	43	83	462	502
Hawaii .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Idaho .....	3.7	(D)	341	(D)	93	(D)
Illinois .....	0.1	0.1	33	26	423	325
Indiana .....	0.5	0.5	158	218	333	411
Iowa .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Kansas .....	0.1	(Y)	30	(X)	493	(X)
Kentucky .....	0.1	(Y)	18	(X)	337	(X)
Louisiana .....	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Michigan .....	0.1	0.1	40	40	400	400
Minnesota .....	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)	(D)
Mississippi .....	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)	(D)
Missouri .....	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Montana .....	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Nebraska .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Nevada .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
New England <sup>1</sup> .....	0.3	0.3	78	69	253	237
New Jersey .....	1.7	1.8	636	677	369	377
New Mexico .....	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
New York .....	8.4	4.8	711	419	85	88
North Carolina .....	0.1	0.1	30	32	380	391
North Dakota .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Ohio .....	9.1	5.7	1,537	1,016	169	181
Oklahoma .....	0.1	(Y)	16	(X)	310	(X)
Oregon .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Pennsylvania .....	8.6	7.9	3,692	3,477	429	438
South Carolina .....	(D)	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)
South Dakota .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Tennessee .....	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)	(D)
Texas .....	0.2	0.2	77	93	417	431
Utah .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Virginia .....	0.1	(D)	17	(D)	279	(D)
Washington .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
West Virginia .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin .....	3.7	2.6	1,685	1,258	454	483
Wyoming .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
United States .....	43.2	31.6	9,961	8,356	232	266

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

(X) Not applicable.

(Y) Less than level of precision shown.

<sup>1</sup> New England includes Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

## Commercial Hog Slaughter – States and United States: March 2020 and 2021

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2020	2021	2020	2021	2020	2021
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Alabama .....	1.7	1.6	688	645	404	405
Alaska .....	0.1	0.2	36	42	268	274
Arizona .....	0.1	0.1	40	42	278	309
Arkansas .....	0.6	0.4	158	122	266	284
California .....	226.1	240.0	58,562	65,169	259	272
Colorado .....	1.6	1.5	374	392	240	262
Delaware-Maryland .....	1.5	1.5	417	432	270	279
Florida .....	4.8	5.2	655	735	135	143
Georgia .....	6.0	5.7	1,483	1,522	248	266
Hawaii .....	0.3	0.3	80	87	277	273
Idaho .....	15.2	14.7	4,081	4,193	268	285
Illinois .....	1,156.6	1,107.4	334,248	319,310	289	288
Indiana .....	759.9	764.7	212,933	213,494	280	279
Iowa .....	3,628.9	3,491.8	1,037,820	1,007,504	286	289
Kansas .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Kentucky .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Louisiana .....	0.7	0.6	168	147	252	227
Michigan .....	284.6	340.1	83,757	100,084	294	294
Minnesota .....	1,066.3	1,115.0	295,155	310,492	277	279
Mississippi .....	2.4	3.4	447	591	184	176
Missouri .....	809.7	785.4	237,229	233,385	293	297
Montana .....	1.1	1.3	327	367	310	288
Nebraska .....	723.9	699.7	208,537	202,222	288	289
Nevada .....	(Y)	(D)	(X)	(D)	(X)	(D)
New England <sup>1</sup> .....	2.4	2.7	682	776	282	287
New Jersey .....	4.3	7.2	476	806	110	112
New Mexico .....	0.2	0.2	50	51	254	278
New York .....	1.7	2.8	458	714	269	251
North Carolina .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
North Dakota .....	0.2	0.2	55	64	305	291
Ohio .....	89.0	92.2	24,925	26,380	280	287
Oklahoma .....	534.0	495.0	156,289	148,337	293	300
Oregon .....	13.9	14.8	3,727	4,210	269	285
Pennsylvania .....	303.5	305.5	83,816	86,596	276	284
South Carolina .....	2.4	2.2	581	553	245	248
South Dakota .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Tennessee .....	79.4	97.6	36,258	42,543	457	436
Texas .....	24.4	25.9	5,382	6,073	221	235
Utah .....	3.8	(D)	721	(D)	193	(D)
Virginia .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Washington .....	2.1	2.2	528	536	251	245
West Virginia .....	0.7	0.5	203	153	295	312
Wisconsin .....	73.4	81.0	31,939	33,939	436	420
Wyoming .....	0.2	0.3	68	76	286	294
United States .....	11,941.8	11,739.8	3,436,551	3,413,489	288	291

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

(X) Not applicable.

(Y) Less than level of precision shown.

<sup>1</sup> New England includes Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

## Commercial Sheep and Lamb Slaughter – States and United States: March 2020 and 2021

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	2020	2021	2020	2021	2020	2021
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Alabama .....	0.1	(D)	4	(D)	65	(D)
Alaska .....	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Arizona .....	0.2	0.2	28	21	134	111
Arkansas .....	0.1	0.1	7	11	138	127
California .....	25.5	30.2	3,954	4,481	155	149
Colorado .....	59.2	55.1	9,683	9,083	164	165
Delaware-Maryland .....	2.7	2.9	253	289	94	100
Florida .....	2.2	3.2	127	164	59	51
Georgia .....	2.0	1.7	131	116	64	68
Hawaii .....	0.1	0.1	7	15	135	125
Idaho .....	0.1	0.2	12	25	131	152
Illinois .....	3.9	5.0	282	375	72	75
Indiana .....	5.4	7.1	620	838	115	118
Iowa .....	0.1	0.2	17	27	151	164
Kansas .....	0.4	0.4	31	41	87	94
Kentucky .....	1.5	2.1	177	214	120	104
Louisiana .....	0.4	0.4	25	27	62	69
Michigan .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Minnesota .....	0.4	0.5	37	45	97	92
Mississippi .....	1.3	0.5	78	29	62	63
Missouri .....	1.0	0.8	78	70	81	84
Montana .....	0.3	0.4	48	51	147	144
Nebraska .....	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Nevada .....	0.1	(D)	9	(D)	130	(D)
New England <sup>1</sup> .....	3.0	4.6	284	473	95	102
New Jersey .....	12.8	16.5	993	1,325	78	80
New Mexico .....	0.5	0.8	73	116	140	151
New York .....	4.2	5.9	447	580	107	99
North Carolina .....	2.7	2.5	185	170	69	69
North Dakota .....	(Y)	0.1	(X)	8	(X)	120
Ohio .....	5.8	6.1	941	1,009	163	165
Oklahoma .....	1.4	(D)	121	(D)	87	(D)
Oregon .....	4.3	5.7	617	845	143	148
Pennsylvania .....	7.3	9.5	795	1,032	109	109
South Carolina .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
South Dakota .....	0.3	0.2	39	24	145	128
Tennessee .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Texas .....	15.6	19.4	1,284	1,991	82	102
Utah .....	2.2	2.4	298	335	138	139
Virginia .....	0.8	1.3	55	86	71	67
Washington .....	0.9	1.3	121	185	138	141
West Virginia .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin .....	0.8	4.9	111	749	143	154
Wyoming .....	(Y)	(Y)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
United States .....	187.7	213.7	24,573	27,782	131	130

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

(X) Not applicable.

(Y) Less than level of precision shown.

<sup>1</sup> New England includes Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

## Livestock Slaughtered Under Federal Inspection by Class – United States

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

Class	March 2020	February 2021	March 2021	January to March		March 2020	February 2021	March 2021	January to March	
				2020	2021				2020	2021
<b>Cattle</b>	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent of total)				
Steers .....	1,377.6	1,170.3	1,391.2	3,965.3	3,855.4	47.9	47.3	47.2	48.0	47.5
Heifers .....	900.6	768.3	908.8	2,518.5	2,477.7	31.3	31.1	30.8	30.5	30.6
All cows .....	557.6	504.9	599.2	1,668.8	1,662.6	19.4	20.4	20.3	20.2	20.5
Dairy cows .....	288.0	265.2	302.2	852.5	844.7	10.0	10.7	10.3	10.3	10.4
Other cows .....	269.6	239.7	297.0	816.3	817.9	9.4	9.7	10.1	9.9	10.1
Bulls .....	38.9	29.1	47.2	115.3	114.1	1.4	1.2	1.6	1.4	1.4
Total .....	2,874.6	2,472.5	2,946.4	8,267.9	8,109.8	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
<b>Calves and vealers</b> .....	42.5	32.5	30.9	130.8	95.1	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
<b>Hogs</b>										
Barrows and gilts .....	11,568.5	10,110.9	11,341.6	33,408.5	32,347.0	97.4	97.4	97.1	97.4	97.3
Sows .....	283.1	241.2	308.4	814.4	820.6	2.4	2.3	2.6	2.4	2.5
Boars .....	31.2	24.0	27.8	90.4	78.0	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.2
Total .....	11,882.8	10,376.1	11,677.8	34,313.3	33,245.6	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
<b>Sheep</b>										
Mature sheep .....	8.8	7.9	11.3	25.9	28.2	5.3	5.5	6.0	5.5	6.0
Lambs and yearlings .....	156.2	134.9	177.2	443.0	443.8	94.7	94.5	94.0	94.5	94.0
Total .....	165.0	142.8	188.5	468.9	471.9	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

## Federally Inspected Slaughter Average Dressed Weight by Class – United States

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

Class	March 2020	February 2021	March 2021	January to March	
				2020	2021
	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
<b>Cattle</b> .....					
Steers <sup>1</sup> .....	830	839	830	829	838
Heifers <sup>1</sup> .....	897	911	900	901	911
All cows <sup>1</sup> .....	831	843	832	832	842
Bulls <sup>1</sup> .....	656	663	656	651	658
	868	888	890	866	888
<b>Calves and vealers</b> .....	133	142	154	130	146
<b>Hogs</b> .....	215	217	217	216	218
Barrows and gilts <sup>2</sup> .....	213	216	215	214	216
Sows <sup>2</sup> .....	304	296	298	304	298
Boars <sup>2</sup> .....	193	182	196	192	189
<b>Sheep</b> .....	68	68	68	68	68
Mature sheep <sup>3</sup> .....	65	64	66	66	65
Lambs and yearlings <sup>3</sup> .....	68	68	68	68	68

<sup>1</sup> Included in cattle average dressed weight.

<sup>2</sup> Included in hog average dressed weight.

<sup>3</sup> Included in sheep average dressed weight.

## Federally Inspected Slaughter – Regions and United States: March 2021

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

Standard federal regions <sup>1</sup>	Cattle								Calves
	Total	Steers	Heifers	Cows			Bulls	Total	
				All	Dairy	Other			
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	
1 .....	2.9	1.2	(D)	0.6	0.2	0.4	(D)	0.3	
2 .....	7.7	2.2	1.7	3.3	3.2	0.2	0.4	6.6	
3 .....	99.6	35.8	3.8	55.8	49.0	6.8	4.2	8.2	
4 .....	76.5	5.0	2.0	59.7	16.5	43.1	9.9	0.3	
5 .....	305.8	135.5	(D)	124.8	72.0	52.7	(D)	8.8	
6 .....	542.9	255.9	174.2	103.2	35.2	68.0	9.4	0.1	
7 .....	1,269.7	678.4	515.8	67.1	11.2	56.0	8.4	0.1	
8 .....	298.2	147.2	109.6	39.6	9.4	30.2	1.8	(D)	
9 .....	199.3	87.2	24.3	85.9	69.7	16.1	1.9	4.2	
10 .....	143.8	42.9	39.1	59.1	35.7	23.4	2.7	(D)	
United States .....	2,946.4	1,391.2	908.8	599.2	302.2	297.0	47.2	30.9	
Hogs									
	Total	Barrows and gilts	Sows	Bucks	Total	Mature sheep	Lambs and yearlings		
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	
1 .....	2.4	2.4	(Y)	(Y)	4.5	0.5	4.0		
2 .....	10.0	9.9	(Y)	(Y)	21.8	2.1	19.7		
3 .....	483.9	482.9	(D)	(D)	14.5	1.4	13.1		
4 .....	(D)	(D)	91.4	(D)	11.2	1.1	10.1		
5 .....	3,476.3	3,327.0	142.6	6.7	34.7	2.7	32.1		
6 .....	512.0	511.9	(D)	(D)	8.2	0.6	7.6		
7 .....	4,993.2	4,904.9	72.9	15.3	1.1	(Y)	1.1		
8 .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(Y)	57.2	1.9	55.3		
9 .....	237.0	236.9	(Y)	(Y)	29.0	0.7	28.3		
10 .....	31.4	31.3	(Y)	(Y)	6.4	0.4	5.9		
United States .....	11,677.8	11,341.6	308.4	27.8	188.5	11.3	177.2		

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

(Y) Less than level of precision shown.

<sup>1</sup> States included in regions are as follows: 1 - Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont; 2 - New Jersey, New York; 3 - Delaware-Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia; 4 - Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee; 5 - Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, Wisconsin; 6 - Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas; 7 - Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska; 8- Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, Wyoming; 9 - Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada; 10 - Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, Washington.

## Federally Inspected Slaughter – Regions and United States: January to March 2021

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

Standard federal regions <sup>1</sup>	Cattle							Calves
	Total	Steers	Heifers	Cows			Bulls	
				All	Dairy	Other	Total	
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)
1 .....	8.1	3.4	(D)	1.5	0.6	0.9	(D)	0.7
2 .....	20.9	6.1	4.7	9.1	8.6	0.5	1.0	19.8
3 .....	262.8	90.7	8.8	153.8	134.3	19.5	9.4	22.3
4 .....	204.5	14.1	4.8	161.5	49.0	112.5	24.1	0.9
5 .....	850.7	370.9	(D)	352.1	200.7	151.4	(D)	32.1
6 .....	1,438.0	677.5	464.9	271.7	91.7	180.0	23.9	0.1
7 .....	3,500.9	1,906.8	1,392.0	183.3	29.5	153.8	18.8	0.1
8 .....	862.6	436.3	310.0	111.8	26.2	85.6	4.5	(D)
9 .....	556.9	236.7	68.0	247.3	206.4	40.8	4.9	12.6
10 .....	404.3	112.8	114.6	170.5	97.6	72.8	6.4	(D)
United States .....	8,109.8	3,855.4	2,477.7	1,662.6	844.7	817.9	114.1	95.1
Hogs								
Standard federal regions <sup>1</sup>	Total	Barrows and gilts	Sows	Boars	Total	Mature sheep	Lambs and yearlings	
		(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)
1 .....	6.9	6.8	0.1	(Y)	10.6	1.0	9.5	
2 .....	26.9	26.8	0.1	0.1	52.9	5.2	47.7	
3 .....	1,363.1	1,360.3	(D)	(D)	35.3	4.0	31.2	
4 .....	(D)	(D)	238.4	(D)	26.7	2.8	23.9	
5 .....	9,866.8	9,472.8	377.0	17.0	86.1	6.4	79.6	
6 .....	1,540.3	1,539.8	(D)	(D)	16.1	1.2	14.9	
7 .....	14,253.0	14,006.3	200.5	46.2	2.7	0.1	2.7	
8 .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(Y)	149.9	4.7	145.2	
9 .....	656.3	656.2	0.1	(Y)	76.1	1.9	74.3	
10 .....	86.2	86.1	0.1	(Y)	15.6	0.9	14.7	
United States .....	33,245.6	32,347.0	820.6	78.0	471.9	28.2	443.8	

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

(Y) Less than level of precision shown.

<sup>1</sup> States included in regions are as follows: 1 - Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont; 2 - New Jersey, New York; 3 - Delaware-Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia; 4 - Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee; 5 - Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, Wisconsin; 6 - Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas; 7 - Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska; 8 - Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, Wyoming; 9 - Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada; 10 - Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, Washington.

## Federally Inspected Slaughter Percent of Total Commercial Slaughter – United States

Species	March 2020	February 2021	March 2021	January to March	
				2020	2021
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle .....	98.4	98.0	98.0	98.4	98.0
Calves .....	98.3	98.4	97.7	98.4	98.2
Hogs .....	99.5	99.5	99.5	99.5	99.5
Sheep .....	87.9	87.3	88.2	87.7	87.6

## **Terms and Definitions Used for Livestock Slaughter Estimates**

**Average Live Weight:** The weight of the whole animal, before slaughter. Excludes post-mortem condemnations.

**Commercial Production:** Includes slaughter and meat production in federally inspected and other plants, but excludes animals slaughtered on farms. Based on packers' dressed weights.

**Custom-Exempt Plants:** Plants that do not sell meat but operate on a custom basis only are custom-exempt. The animals and meat are not inspected, but the facilities must meet health standards. These are considered NFI plants and head kill is included in NFI totals.

**Dressed Weight:** The weight of a chilled animal carcass. Beef with kidney knob in; veal with hide off; lamb and mutton with pluck out; pork with leaf fat and kidneys out, jowls on and head off.

**Dressing Percent:** Usually expressed as a percentage yield of chilled carcass in relation to the weight of the live animal on hoof. For example, a live hog that weighed 200 pounds on hoof and yielded a carcass weighing 140 pounds would have a dressing percentage of 70.

**Federally Inspected (FI) Plants:** Plants that transport meat interstate must employ federal inspectors to assure compliance with USDA standards. Any state whose commercial plants operate entirely under federal inspection may still have custom-exempt establishments for which NFI estimates are made.

**Food and Meat Inspection:** Includes examination, checking, or testing of a carcass and/or meat against established government standards and involves checking the facility for cleanliness, health of animals, or parts of animals and quality of the meat produced.

**Non-Federally Inspected (NFI) Plants:** Plants which sell and transport only intrastate. State inspectors assure compliance with individual state standards for these NFI plants. Mobile slaughtering units are excluded and are considered farm slaughter.

**Number of Head:** Includes post-mortem condemnations.

**Plant, Slaughter:** An establishment where animals are killed and butchered.

**Red Meat:** Red meat production is the carcass weight after slaughter excluding condemnation and is comprised of beef, veal, pork, and lamb and mutton. The FI red meat production is equal to the total carcass weight after slaughter. The NFI meat production formula is (NFI head kill) X (live weight) X (FI dressing percentage) = NFI red meat production.

**Slaughter:** Killing and butchering of animals primarily for food.

**Slaughter, Farm:** Animals slaughtered on farms primarily for home consumption. Excludes custom slaughter for farmers at commercial establishments, but includes mobile slaughtering on farms. These estimates appear only in the annual slaughter release.

**Talmedge-Aiken (TA) Plants:** Slaughter plants in which USDA is responsible for inspection. However, federal inspection is carried out by State employees. These plants are considered to be federally inspected.

**Total Live Weight:** The total weight of live animals, before slaughter. Excludes post-mortem condemnations.

**Wholesome Meat Act:** Legislation that specifies that all meat produced for sale in the United States must be inspected. Meat that is transported interstate must be inspected in compliance with Federal (USDA) Standards.

## **Statistical Methodology**

**Data Sources:** Primary data for the *Livestock Slaughter* publication are obtained from electronic reports completed by inspectors from the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS), USDA, which provide daily counts of animals slaughtered in Federally Inspected (FI) plants, in addition to total live and dressed weights. These counts are combined with data from State-administered Non-Federally Inspected (NFI) slaughter plants to derive total commercial slaughter estimates.

There are approximately 850 livestock slaughter plants in the United States operating under Federal Inspection and nearly 1,950 Non-Federally Inspected (State-inspected or custom-exempt) slaughter plants. Slaughter from State-inspected Talmedge-Aiken plants is included in FI totals (see Terms and Definitions, page 14). To prevent duplication in reporting between FI and NFI plants and assure all FI plants are included, certificates prepared by FSIS identifying operating status are constantly monitored.

**Revision Policy:** Number of head slaughtered, live weights, and dressed weights are subject to revision the following month after the monthly release. Annual totals are published in the slaughter summary each April which includes any revisions made to current and previous year's published data. Revisions are generally the result of late reports received from slaughter plants and are usually less than one-half of one percent. No revisions will be made to the previous year's data after the publication of the annual summary in April.

**Procedures and Reliability:** The livestock slaughter data is obtained electronically on a daily basis and summarized approximately two weeks after the week of slaughter. A computer program compares each plant's data with the historical data for that plant. Data are checked for unusual values for head kill, patterns of kill, average weights, and dressing percent, based on each plant's past operating profile. In addition, the computer program provides a listing of missing reports for follow-up contact with FSIS. Average live and dressed weights and dressing percentages by State are compared with the previous weeks as an additional check. Fluctuations are frequently the result of plants permanently or temporarily closing and a shift in the species reported.

The FSIS District Veterinary Medical Specialists (DVMS) are contacted by e-mail or telephone for missing or potentially erroneous slaughter data. This assures that plants slaughtering a large number of head or several species are accounted for each week. Any corrections FSIS makes to the slaughter data are included in the summary.

Computer imputation may be necessary for incomplete reports. The imputation of live and dressed weights is based on the current week reported data of plants of similar size and location. Imputation for live and dressed weight data for cattle and hogs is less than 10 percent and 7 percent, respectively. The imputation for calves and sheep is more frequent and variable. If no data is received electronically or by other means, for plants slaughtering fewer than 50 total head weekly of only one species, data are imputed. The imputation of head for any plant is based on the historical data for that particular plant. The imputation of head slaughtered is rare but when necessary, the imputed head kill for missing plants usually is less than 1 percent of the United States head kill totals.

FI data are summarized weekly and accumulated to a monthly total for this release. These weekly totals are published by USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) in **Livestock, Meat, Wool Market News**, Weekly Summary, and statistics are also available on the NASS website. NFI data are summarized monthly only.

Livestock slaughter estimates are based on a census of operating plants and therefore, have no sampling error. However, they may be subject to non-sampling errors such as omissions, duplications and mistakes in reporting, recording and processing the data. These errors are minimized through rigid quality controls in the computer edit program and summarization process, and a careful review of all reported data for consistency and reasonableness.

No data are published when an individual plant's data could be divulged. If not published, as indicated with a (D), these data are still included in United States and region totals. A review of the data is made annually to determine the publishable data.

## Information Contacts

Listed below are the commodity specialists in the Livestock Branch of the National Agricultural Statistics Service to contact for additional information. E-mail inquiries may be sent to [nass@usda.gov](mailto:nass@usda.gov).

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Scott Hollis, Head, Livestock Section .....	(202) 690-2424
Sherry Bertramsen – Livestock Slaughter .....	(202) 690-8632
Ryan Cowen – Cattle, Cattle on Feed .....	(202) 720-3040
Logan Hartley-Sanguinett – Sheep and Goats .....	(202) 690-3236
Mike Miller – Milk Production and Milk Cows .....	(202) 720-3278
Suzanne Richards – Dairy Products .....	(202) 720-4448
Seth Riggins – Hogs and Pigs .....	(202) 720-3106

## Access to NASS Reports

For your convenience, you may access NASS reports and products the following ways:

- All reports are available electronically, at no cost, on the NASS web site: [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov)
- Both national and state specific reports are available via a free e-mail subscription. To set-up this free subscription, visit [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov) and click on “National” or “State” in upper right corner above “search” box to create an account and select the reports you would like to receive.
- Cornell’s Mann Library has launched a new website housing NASS’s and other agency’s archived reports. The new website, <https://usda.library.cornell.edu>. All email subscriptions containing reports will be sent from the new website, <https://usda.library.cornell.edu>. To continue receiving the reports via e-mail, you will have to go to the new website, create a new account and re-subscribe to the reports. If you need instructions to set up an account or subscribe, they are located at: <https://usda.library.cornell.edu/help>. You should whitelist [notifications@usda-esmis.library.cornell.edu](mailto:notifications@usda-esmis.library.cornell.edu) in your email client to avoid the emails going into spam/junk folders.

For more information on NASS surveys and reports, call the NASS Agricultural Statistics Hotline at (800) 727-9540, 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET, or e-mail: [nass@usda.gov](mailto:nass@usda.gov).

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